

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 01838 031538Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 USIA-06 /043 W
-----104640 040045Z /66

R 031450Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4820
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 1838

PARIS FOR USOECD
BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
ROME FOR IRS REP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, OLAB, EALR, GR
SUBJ: MARCH 1 STRIKE HAS ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS

REF: ATHENS 1720

1. ON MARCH 1, AROUND 250,000 EMPLOYEES OF BANKS AND GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED ENTERPRISES, CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, PUBLIC-TRANSPORT EMPLOYEES AND A HANDFUL OF EMPLOYEES IN VARIOUS OTHER SECTORS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY STAGED A 24-HOUR STRIKE TO PROTEST THE GOVERNMENT'S INCOME AND LABOR POLICY. IN PARTICULAR, THEY WERE DEMANDING 30 PERCENT SALARY AND WAGE INCREASES AND A 40-HOUR, FIVE-DAY WORKING WEEK. ACCORDING TO LABOR MINISTER LASKARIS, THE STRIKE HAD ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS. PARTICIPATION WAS HIGH ONLY IN THE BANKING, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMUNICATIONS SECTORS (74, 95, AND 71 PERCENT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 01838 031538Z

RESPECTIVELY) AND ONLY ABOUT 7.5 PERCENT OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS PARTICIPATED.

2. LASKARIS REPEATED COORDINATION MINISTER RALLIS' CLAIM (REFTEL) THAT THE STRIKE WAS ORGANIZED TO CREATE A CLIMATE OF AGITATION FOR POLITICAL MOTIVES AND PUT THE BLAME ON THE COMMUNISTS. ALTHOUGH THERE IS SOME VALIDITY TO THE

LATTER CHARGE (THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IS THE ONLY COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED FEDERATION), LASKARIS EXAGGERATED IN PUTTING ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY ON COMMUNISTS.

3. COMMENT: THE LIMITED SUCCESS OF THE STRIKE CAN BE CONSIDERED A VICTORY FOR THE GOVERNMENT. WITH THE RE-ASSURANCE THAT A MAJORITY WITHIN THE LABOR MOVEMENT DOES NOT SYMPATHIZE WITH THE MORE MILITANT UNIONS WHO ARE CHALLENGING ITS WAGE AND SALARY GUIDELINES, THE GOG IS IN A STRONGER POSITION TO CARRY OUT ITS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED LABOR AND INCOMES POLICY.
MILLS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ATHENS01838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780098-0612
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803112/aaaadqyb.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9ec3bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 ATHENS 1720
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3134871
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 1 STRIKE HAS ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS
TAGS: EFIN, ELAB, EALR, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9ec3bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014